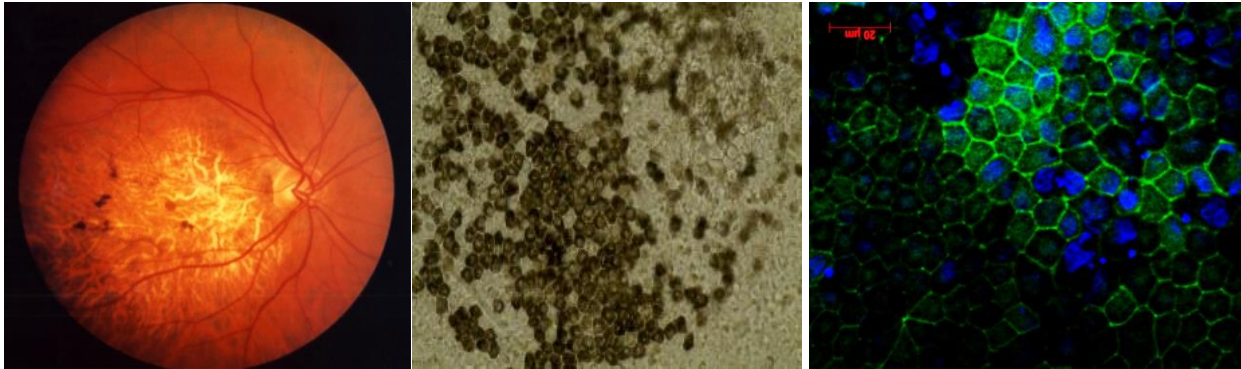


Café Scientifique Headingley

Monday 10th February 2020 at 7:30pm

Inherited blindness: a cure in sight?

by Colin Johnson



Outline: Genomics is the study of the entire complement of genes in the genome and how these influence human health and disease. Medical genomics is transforming medicine by enabling treatments to be tailored to a patient's genetic characteristics. Recent developments and approval of gene therapies can treat specific inherited types of eye disease. Knowledge of a patient's genetic make-up can also have benefit because genetic testing is then possible, improving diagnosis and clinical management. Over 20,000 individuals in the UK are registered blind or partially sighted as a result of inherited retinal dystrophies, caused by gene defects. In this talk Professor Colin A. Johnson will describe exciting new technologies; growing "eyes in a dish" and "gene editing". He will discuss how new methods can be used to understand the causes of inherited blindness and how they might be used in developing new treatments.

Colin A Johnson is Professor of Medical & Molecular Genetics at the University of Leeds. His current research progresses our new knowledge of the genetics of inherited eye disorders by developing lab-grown cellular models of human disease. These are used to understand disease processes and to test new therapeutic approaches.

Venue: The New Headingley Club, 56 St Michael's Rd., Leeds LS6 3BG

Time: Club opens at 7:00pm for drinks & the room at 7:30; talk begins promptly at 7:45pm

Entry: Donation please for room hire and expenses: **£3 at the door**



Café Scientifique Headingley is a programme run under the auspices of the Headingley Development Trust www.headingleydevelopmenttrust.org.uk